AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating~~, preventing~~ or ameliorating chronic heart failure or acute heart failure in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a compound wherein the compound is a bile acid that is able to reduce the production, absorption and/or the effect of the ~~an~~ endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS) in human blood.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the heart failure includes endotoxin-mediated immune activation.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the bile acid is any one of ursodesoxycholic acid, chemodeoxycholic acid, dehydrocholic acid, cholic acid and deoxycholic acid.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is activated charcoal activated carbon, Fuller's earth, attapulgite, kaolin, bentonite or a clay or colostrum of human, bovine, or other mamallian origin

12. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1; wherein the compound is an antibacterial agent.

13. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 12 wherein the antibacterial agent is active in the gut.

14. (Withdrawn) A method according of claim 12 wherein the antibacterial agent is able to substantially reduce the amount of bacteria and/or free endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide) in the gut.

15. (Withdrawn) A method according of claim 12 wherein the antibacterial agent is largely unabsorbed from the gut.

16. (Withdrawn) A method according of claim 12 wherein the antibacterial agent is an antibiotic, for instance but not exclusively non-absorbable antibiotics like neomycin, tobramycin, ampbotericin B, and colistin.

17.(Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is able to inhibit the response by a cell to endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS).

18. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 17 wherein the compound is able to decrease the cytokine production by a cell in response to endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS).

19. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17 wherein the compound is an antibody able to bind the CD14 receptor, soluble CD14 receptor or an antibody or non-functional agonist of a toll-like receptor.

20. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17 wherein the compound is able to inhibit signaling *via* the CD14 receptor or via a toll-like receptor.

21. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is able to reduce the permeability of the gut wall to bacteria and/or endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS).

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 1 wherein the agent is IGF-1, allopurinol, oxipurinol, or any other unspecific xanthine oxidase inhibitor, or a specific xanthine oxidase inhibitor (like TMX-67), liquorice or its derivatives, carbenoxolone, an alginate, sulfacrate or an agent that may form a hydrogel.

25. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is administered orally.

26. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is administered intravenously.

27. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1 wherein the compound is administered rectally.

28-42 (Canceled)

43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein a HMG-coenzyme A-reductase inhibitor that is able to increase lipoprotein levels and is not used to lower LDL / cholesterol levels is administered to the patient.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Withdrawn) The method claim of 1 wherein a diuretic is administered to the patient.

46. (Canceled) A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 78, wherein the compound is ~~comprising~~ a bile acid ~~or BPI, or LPS binding protein, a lipoprotein, a lipoprotein mixture, or an antibody capable of binding LPS~~.

47. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 78 comprising a compound that is able to bind to an endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS) molecule in the gut and a diuretic.

48. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 78 comprising an antibacterial agent and a diuretic.

49. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 78 comprising a compound that is able to inhibit the response by a cell to endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS) and a diuretic.

50. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 78 comprising an agent that is able to reduce the permeability of the gut wall to bacteria and/or endotoxin (LPS) and a diuretic.

51-52 (Canceled)

53. (Currently amended) A method of treating or ameliorating body wasting or cachexia in a patient with liver cirrhosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic renal failure, diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of a compound wherein the compound is a bile acid that is able to reduce the production, absorption and/or the effect of ~~an 10~~ the endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS) in human blood.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the patient's condition further comprises endotoxin-mediated immune activation.

55. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is able to bind to an endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS) molecule.

56. (Canceled) .

57. (Canceled)

58. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 53 ~~57~~ wherein the bile acid is any one of ursodesoxycholic acid, chemodeoxycholic acid, dehydrocholic acid, cholic acid and deoxycholic acid.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Canceled)

61 (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is a lipoprotein.

62. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is a combination of LPS binding protein and a lipoprotein.

63. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is an antibody capable of binding to endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS).

64. (Canceled)

65. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is an antibody able to bind to the CD 14 receptor.

66. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is a soluble CD14 receptor.

67. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is a drug blocking effectively signaling through toll-like receptors.

68. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is colostrum of human, bovine, or other mamallian origin.

69. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is able to inhibit the response by a cell to endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS).

70. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is able to decrease the cytokine production by a cell in response to endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS).

71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is administered orally.

73. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is administered intravenously.

74. (Currently amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 53 wherein the compound is administered rectally.

75. (Canceled)

76. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17, wherein the compound is an antibody able to bind the CD14 receptor, soluble CD14 receptor or an antibody or non-functional agonist against the toll-like receptor 4 and 2.

77. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 17, wherein the compound is able to inhibit signalling *via* the CD14 receptor or via the toll-like receptor 4 and 2.

78. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising ~~a diuretic and a compound chosen from the group consisting of:~~

~~a)~~ bile acid ~~or BI or LPS binding protein, a lipoprotein, a lipoprotein mixture, or an antibody capable of binding LPS;~~

~~b) a compound that is able to bind to an endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS) molecule in the gut;~~

~~c) an antibacterial agent;~~

~~d) a compound that is able to inhibit the response by a cell to endotoxin (lipopolysaccharide; LPS); and~~

~~e) an agent that is able to reduce the premeability of the put wall to bacteria and/or endotoxin (LPS).~~ and a diuretic.

79. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical formulation according to claim 78, wherein the compound is a lipoprotein chosen from the group consisting of low density lipoprotein (LDL), high density lipoprotein (HDL), very low density lipoprotein (VLDL), and apolipoprotein (a).

80. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53, wherein the compound is a lipoprotein chosen from the group consisting of low density lipoprotein (LDL), high density lipoprotein (HDL), very low density lipoprotein (VLDL), apolipoprotein (a), a lipoprotein mixture.

81. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 53, wherein the compound is a drug blocking effectively signaling through the toll-like receptor 4 and toll-like receptor 2.

82. (New) A method of reducing elevated levels of lipopolysaccharide (LPS) in human blood of patients by administering an amount of bile acid effective to reduce the elevated levels of LPS in human blood of patients.

83. (New) The method of claim 82, wherein the bile acid reduces elevated levels of LPS in human blood of patients with cachexia due to liver cirrhosis.

84. (New) The method according to claim 82, wherein the bile acid is any one of ursodesoxycholic acid, chemodeoxycholic acid, dehydrocholic acid, cholic acid and deoxycholic acid.

85. (New) The method according to claim 82, wherein the bile acid is administered intravenously.

86. (New) The method according to claim 82, wherein the bile acid is administered rectally.

87. (New) The method according to claim 82, wherein the bile acid is administered orally.